

WYCOMBE FORCED TO PLAY EXTRA TIME

Sports Mail Special Report

WYCOMBE W ... 1 : MAIDENHEAD UTD 1

(Extra time being played)

WYCOMBE Wanderers, the holders, found Maidenhead United tough opposition in the Berks and Bucks Cup semi-final at Marlow, and with the teams level after 90 minutes a decision was sought in extra time.

Wycombe Wanderers: Brown; Beck, Atkins; Thomas, Fisher, Worley; Rockall, Ashby, Holmes, Bates, Murphy.

Maidenhead United: Prunty; Lucas, Lawrence; Pitts, Randall, Hurley; Driver, Reardon, Beevers, Jakubik, Way.

Referee: H A Harris (Bletchley).

Both defences looked suspect in the early stages.

Wycombe pivot Fisher slipped up twice trying to clear, and then Bates tricked Hurley with deceptive ease before making a pass which Holmes only just failed to reach.

After Bates had crashed a fierce drive just wide of goal, United took a shock seventh minute lead. With the Wycombe defence standing still BEEVERS ran through unchallenged to score.

The new look Wanderers forward line began to settle down

in lively fashion. Goalkeeper Prunty made a flying dive to keep Holmes' header and then Bates—who was putting plenty of pep into his shooting—placed an opportunist drive wide.

Quick-moving centre-forward Beevers was a real threat to an erratic Wycombe defence. After he had dribbled past Fisher and Thomas, Brown dived headlong to save.

LUCKY ESCAPES

United were lucky when Alan Murphy, making his debut on Wycombe's left wing, crossed quickly and Ashby hit the cross-bar.

Almost immediately Murphy's cross shot hit a post.

These escapes took some of the sting out of Maidenhead and Wycombe began to press strongly, with the eager Ashby

fully justifying his inclusion in the attack.

He forced Prunty to drop the ball in one fierce challenge. Holmes missed a simple chance of equalising from Murphy's centre.

United were very lucky to be in front, and they had to thank Prunty for a thrilling save from Bates.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 0, Maidenhead Utd 1.

Straight from the restart Holmes centred into the United goalmouth and Prunty turned the ball on to the cross bar and over for a corner.

NOT SO EASY

Wanderers were not finding the way to goal so easy this half, and even when Rockell did beat Prunty with his cross, Ranrall was on the spot to clear.

To give the Wycombe forwards more punch, full-back John Beck switched into the attack. He nearly deceived the Maidenhead defence with a clever run.

With five minutes to go Murphy sent across a fine corner and ROCKELL equalised

(Score after 90 minutes)

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